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ENCLOSURE 1

SECURITY INFORMATION

10/18/51

OUTLINE OF AN ECONOMIC WARFARE
RESEARCH PROJECT

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Purpose: To determine those measures taken in the field of economic warfare by the U.S.S.R. since 1945, and currently being taken, that are directed against the U. S. and the free world, in order

- a. To uncover U.S.S.R. intentions and operations and
- b. To devise counter measures

Reasons for Undertaking the Project: Although it is recognized that a great deal of pertinent information is available, it is believed that no survey has been undertaken or is in process which has as its specific objects:

- a. The systematic bringing together of the many types of information that are or may be significant from the point of view of economic warfare and
- b. The collating and study of this information for the purposes of discovering the U.S.S.R. plans, determining what if any threats to the security of the U. S. exist in consequence and devising counter measures.

Proposed Procedure: As a first step it is proposed that an informal survey be made of the information and studies already compiled and available that bear on this problem. The survey should include governmental as well as private sources, including the files of newsgathering and informational organizations.

Specifically, the initial survey should concern itself with Chronological listings covering the period 1945 to date of:

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- a. Political disturbances in areas strategically important to the North Atlantic community or from which it draws essential supplies, including such events as coup d'etats, attempted revolution, riots, and assassination of political figures.
- b. Serious strikes and labor disturbances in these same areas.
- c. Shortages and surpluses of key raw materials and commodities, as indicated by unusual price movements or in other ways.
- d. Major fires, explosions or other disasters, including interruptions of communications, that might be the result of sabotage, particularly those taking place in key plants, harbors, military installations and transport of communications facilities.
- e. Acts of violence involving important political, military and business figures - including kidnapping, unexplained disappearance and death.
- f. Sharp changes in the direction or quantity of the movement of key commodities in international trade.
- g. Changes in foreign exchange restrictions and the utilization of blocked balances, particularly those involving U.S.S.R. satellites.
- h. U.S.S.R. trade treaties and agreements.
- i. Sudden changes in the pattern of gold flows in international trade.

It is recognized that further study might well bring changes in the above tabulation of the kinds of material meriting scrutiny.

The second proposed step is to combine these different types of data - which presumably in part reflect the results and consequences of Russian economic warfare measures - into a sort of diary or running account, in order to determine what are the discernible trends and manifest objectives of U.S.S.R. operations and what are the connections between events in different fields that, at first, appear unrelated.

In the light of the findings of these two steps it is further proposed to establish a mechanism that can quickly make available to an operational unit.

- a. Information as to what appear to be the intentions and targets of U.S.S.R. economic warfare measures and
- b. Recommendations for counter measures.